



Congresswoman

Grace F. Napolitano

Representing California's
38th District

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Summer 2006

Becoming a U.S. Citizen

■ Updates on Citizenship Efforts Affecting the 38th District

To apply for citizenship, legal permanent residents must meet very specific criteria. They must legally reside in the US for at least 5 years, be a minimum of 18 years old, be able to read, write, and speak English, have knowledge of U.S. history and government, and pay a \$400 application fee.

On July 1st, Congresswoman Napolitano attended naturalization workshop held at the San Bernardino National Orange Show grounds. The event was presented by various community organizations in cooperation with government agencies, and provided assistance to legal residents with the federal government's N-400 application for naturalization, gave free passport photos, and delivered completed citizenship packets to the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS). The Congresswoman joined USCIS representatives in responding to questions and concerns raised by the participants regarding citizenship requirements and procedures.



Participants complete naturalization paperwork at the citizenship workshop held at the San Bernardino National Orange Show grounds on July 1st.

The Congresswoman commended the sponsors of these events. "The process of applying to become a U.S. Citizen can be confusing," noted the Congresswoman. "So many in our communities are eligible

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Upcoming events...

Veterans Workshop

A one-stop official event with info on jobs, healthcare and the return to civilian life.

Citizenship Workshop

An official event containing info from the US Citizenship & Immigration Bureau

Check: www.house.gov/napolitano

■ Visiting Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Hospital

On July 11, 2006, fourteen members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, including Congresswoman Napolitano, Caucus Chair, visited recovering soldiers and their families at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC).

The soldiers, family members, and the WRAMC staff appreciated the opportunity to talk to Members of Congress and their staff about their experiences abroad in Iraq and their return home to the United States. The Congresswoman also spoke with several of our brave men and women about adjusting to civilian life and making use of resources available to keep healthy.

■ Commemoration of Asian Pacific Islander Month

Congresswoman Napolitano has worked with the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus to address issues that disproportionately affect minority communities, such as health care and immigration. Recent events highlight work to engage Asian Pacific Islander (API) leaders in the democratic process:

• **Work with the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS):** The Congresswoman attended the 12th annual APAICS commemoration of May as "API Month" along with many local, state, and federal officials. The event facilitated a discussion of issues

such as the Voting Rights Act (VRA), a bill which will renew and improve critical provisions that protect minority Americans from discrimination in exercising the fundamental right to vote.

• **Fighting For Taiwan's Membership in the World Health Organization (WHO):** On June 6, the Congresswoman joined several colleagues in co-sponsoring H.Con.Res. 154, a bill introduced by Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN) expressing the sense of Congress that Taiwan should be accorded full and equal membership in the WHO, providing Taiwan with better resources to fight the Avian Flu across Asia.

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Caring For Our Returning Soldiers

We know that 35 percent of Iraq veterans have sought mental health services, with 19.1% of Iraq veterans and 11.3% of Afghanistan veterans reported a mental health problem upon returning home. Congresswoman Napolitano strongly supports comprehensive assistance for veterans' healthcare and urged full funding at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for mental health services to veterans and their families.

Some returning men and women find reintegration to be slow and painful. The information below was adapted from a VA guide for family and friends to help Vets with the adjustment to civilian life.:

- **Give a vet some space.** Most won't want to talk about the violence they witnessed right away.
- **Then lend an ear.** When the time comes, prepare to listen. The recollections may come out over the course of weeks or months, as your loved one reformulates the memories into meaningful stories.
- **Recognize that things are different now.** The world has changed. Bring your vet up to date slowly, one issue at a time.

- **Understand the vet's need to spend time with war buddies.** Families need to know that the vets' lifeline to peers often makes the difference between coping and a withdrawal into isolation.

- **Expect a period of adjustment.** It can take six to eight weeks to get back to something that approaches normal, both physically and mentally.

- **Get help.** If problems persist for more than three months, professional help may be needed—for the individual or for families.

- **Take the Mental Health Self-Assessment.** A new online test offered by the Department of Defense can anonymously help vets affected by deployment in every branch of the military and their family members to identify symptoms before problems become urgent. The program is accessible 24/7 at:

<http://www.pdhealth.mil/mhsa.asp>

For other questions, servicemembers and families can call the free Military OneSource hotline at: **(800) 342-9647**

Still Need More Help with Your Medicare Part D Plan?

- Are you still having problems getting your medications from your new Medicare drug plan?
- Are you being charged more than \$3 for your medications even though you are on Medi-Cal?
- Have you tried to switch to another Part D plan and Social Security continues to deduct Part D premiums from your Social Security check?

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services operates a toll-free hotline to help you. They provide assistance with Medicare, and can answer questions you may have about your prescription drug benefit.

For answers, call 1-800-MEDICARE

Supporting Our Nurses

Congresswoman Napolitano attended the annual Professional Nursing Conference of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) on June 2, where she spoke to over 80 nurses and nursing students about their work promoting quality care for the Hispanic/Latino community and explained efforts at the federal level to fund related programs.

The Congresswoman, a member of the Congressional Nursing Caucus, recently signed a letter to the Appropriations Committee in support of full funding in 2007 for Nursing Workforce Development Programs, and also co-sponsored H.R. 3569, the Nurses Education, Expansion, and Development Act of 2005, which contributes towards increasing the number of nursing faculty and students.

The Congresswoman also congratulated Angie Millan, President of the Los Angeles Chapter of NAHN, who was sworn in at the event as an appointee for the California Healthcare and Workforce Policy Commission.

API Month Observed in 38th District

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• Meet and Greet with Vietnamese Community of Pomona Valley:



Dr. Huu Vo, President of the Vietnamese Community of Pomona Valley, and several organization members met with the Congresswoman (pictured above) on May 30 to review federal issues affecting residents in Pomona, Hacienda Heights, and the City of Industry, along with other surrounding areas. Major issues discussed were immigration, federal grant opportunities, and increasing

civic participation in the Vietnamese American community.

- **Meeting with Taiwanese Economic and Cultural Office, Los Angeles (TECO-LA):** The Congresswoman met with Dr. Wu-Lien Wei, Director General, TECO-LA, on May 30 to discuss international trade and business concerns. She stressed her support for fair trade, as long as it is balanced trade and fully addresses labor and environmental concerns.

Grants Update:

Two facilities for business development were recently awarded federal grants by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the Department of Commerce :

- **CalPoly Pomona** received a \$2 million grant for their Innovation Village project.
- **Pomona Fairplex** received \$1.75 million for construction of their Trade and Conference Center.

Montebello Resident Graduates West Point

On Saturday, May 27, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano joined Cadet Lieutenant Brandon Archuleta, and his family from Montebello, in upstate New York to witness his graduation from the

United States Military Academy at West Point as President of his class. He was originally nominated by Congresswoman Napolitano to attend West Point Academy.

Students interested in attending any of the U.S. military academies should contact our District office the first semester of their Freshman year in high school to begin preparation, and should request an Academy Nomination Application Form no later than the second semester of their junior year. A Military Academy Day event is held yearly during the fall semester where students and their parents are invited to attend an information session to learn more about the various military academies by speaking personally with academy representatives.

For more information, please contact Ben Cardenas in our District office at (562) 801-2134.



Brandon Archuleta, President of West Point Academy's Class of 2006

Brandon received his Bachelor of Sciences degree in American History and a commission as a Second Lieutenant serving as a Field Artillery Officer in the United States Army.

Brandon was elected as President for the Class of 2006 during his freshman year and re-elected to a life-term representing his peers of 1200 in '06. He has received the National Defense Service Medal and the Air Assault badge, while his leadership has been profiled by both MSNBC and the New York Times.

Visit to North Park Middle School

On May 31, 2006, Sgt. Carlos Lopez invited the Congresswoman (pictured below) to his civics class to discuss her career in the House of Representatives and explain the duties of a Member of Congress.



After a brief overview of her career as a Norwalk City Councilwoman, California State Assemblywoman, and to her current position as representative for the 38th District, the students asked very insightful and thought provoking questions about the war in Iraq, the DREAM act, immigration reform, and many other important current topics.

Sgt. Lopez has since completed his teaching assignment and was recently hired by the Congresswoman to join her District Office staff as a Veterans Liason.

2006 Congressional Student Art Contest

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives pay tribute to talent-rich high school students through a yearly Congressional Art Contest. The First Place winner's artwork hangs alongside over 400 First Place winners from throughout the U.S. along the Capitol Tunnel corridor.

Cesar Salas, an El Rancho High School junior in Pico Rivera, was the Judges' Choice for First Place. His untitled work, a pencil on canvas design which includes a car with his last name on the license plate, won him a Congressional Certificate of Recognition, a \$100 cash award, and the

opportunity to join over 400 other student artists at the opening of the national exhibition at the U.S. Capitol. The opening was also attended by Members of Congress and representatives from the arts community including actor Joe Pantoliano and artist Vincent Desiderio.

The winning art can be viewed online at: www.house.gov/napolitano/photos/



2006 Winning Artists

1st Place: Cesar Salas, El Rancho

2nd Place: Jose Carochure, Garey

3rd Place: Lacy Taylor, El Rancho

Honorable Mentions:

Steve Obregon, El Rancho

Laura Chagolla, Garey

Devin Koba, Los Altos

Anna Nguyen, Pomona

Miguel Majih, Diamond Ranch

You Tengara, Diamond Ranch

Judges Choice Award:

Laura Flores, Nogales

Mario Acosta, El Rancho

Robby Flores, El Rancho

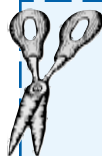
Becoming a Citizen

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for citizenship, but simply lack the resources and need assistance to complete the process.”

The Congresswoman strongly supports legislation to assist students in achieving citizenship through the DREAM Act. The bill by Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Ballart (R-FL) allows states to determine residency requirements for higher education and provides a path to citizenship for students who came to the U.S. as children and have been long-term residents.

For more information on immigration, please contact Brenda McPheeters in our District Office at (562) 801-2134.



FEDERAL RESOURCES

Citizenship / Immigration	800-375-5283
Emergency Management	800-621-3362
FBI	310-477-6565
Federal Immunization Info	800-232-4636
Federal Information Center	800-688-9889
IRS (Federal Tax Issues)	800-829-1040
National Park Service	202-208-6843
Small Business (SBA)	818-552-3215
US Post Office	800-275-8777

VETERANS RESOURCES

Veterans' Benefits	800-827-1000
Veterans' Hospital (Loma Linda)	909-825-7084

CALIFORNIA STATE RESOURCES

Attorney General	
Public Inquiry Unit	916-322-3360
Aging	916-419-7500
Board of Equalization	800-400-7115
Consumer Affairs	800-952-5210
Economic Development	916-448-8252
Education (State Board)	916-319-0800
Emergency Services	916-845-8510
Governor's Office	916-445-2841
Highway Patrol	562-868-0503
Housing Finance Agency	916-322-3991
Insurance Issues Hotline	800-927-4357
Managed Care	888-466-2219
National Guard	916-854-3304
Occupational Safety & Health	800-963-9424
Public Utilities Commission	415-703-2782
Recycling	800-RECYCLE
Rehabilitation	916-263-7367
Social Services	916-445-6951
State Gov. Directory	916-657-9900
Water Resources	916-653-5791
Workers Compensation	510-286-7100

Veterans	800-952-5626
Youth Authority (Adults)	916-445-6713
Youth Authority (Juveniles)	916-262-1514

LOS ANGELES COUNTY RESOURCES

Animal Care and Control	562-940-8899
Board of Supervisors	213-974-1401
Child Abuse Hotline	800-540-4000
Child Support Services	323-889-3340
Consumer Affairs	213-974-9750
Domestic Violence Hotline	800-978-3600
Elder Abuse	213-580-3383
Elder Protective Service	213-351-5401
Elder Abuse Center	877-477-3646
Fairplex (County Fair)	909-623-3111
Fire Dept. Haz Mat Div.	562-790-1810
Health Services Information	800-427-8700
Mental Health Hotline	800-854-7771
Mosquito Abatement / Vector Control District	562-944-9656
MTA Transit Information	800-266-6883
Public Library	562-940-8400
Public Works	626-458-4000
Sanitation	562-699-7411
Senior Services	213-738-2617
Sheriff	323-526-5000

CITY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

City of Industry	
City Hall	626-333-2211
Sheriff Station	626-330-3322
Fire Department	626-336-6950
East Los Angeles	
Sheriff Department	323-264-4151
Library	323-264-0155
Hacienda Heights	
Sheriff Station	626-330-3322
Fire Department	626-336-6950
Library	626-968-9356
La Puente	
City Hall	626-855-1500
Sheriff Station	626-330-3322
Fire Station	626-336-6950
Library	626-968-4613

Montebello	
City Hall	323-887-1200
Police Services	323-887-1288
Fire Station	323-887-4510
Library	323-722-6551

Norwalk	
City Hall	562-929-5700
Public Safety	562-929-5732
Sheriff Station	562-863-8711
Library	562-868-0775
LA County Fire	562-860-8014
Graffiti Hotline	562-929-5555

Pico Rivera	
City Hall	562-942-2000
Sheriff Station	562-949-2421
Fire Station	626-336-6950
Library	562-942-7394

Pomona	
City Hall	909-620-2051
Fire Department	909-629-9671
Graffiti Hotline	909-620-2265
Library	909-620-3713
Police Department	909-620-2156

Santa Fe Springs	
City Hall	562-868-0511
Police Services	562-409-1850
Fire Station	562-944-9713
Library	562-868-7738

SCHOOL DISTRICTS & UNIVERSITIES

Pomona USD	909-397-4800
Norwalk / La Mirada USD	562-868-0431
El Rancho USD	562-942-1500
Montebello USD	323-887-7900
Santa Fe Springs USD	562-868-8241
Hacienda / La Puente USD	626-933-1000
Rowland USD	626-965-2541
Cal Poly Pomona Univ.	909-869-7659
Cerritos College	562-860-2451
Rio Hondo College	562-692-0921
Western Univ. of Health	909-623-6116

how to contact us

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